



## POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE IDENTIFICATION

REGION

SITE NUMBER

6

NM/223075515

NOTE: The initial identification of a potential site or incident should not be interpreted as a finding of illegal activity or confirmation that an actual health or environmental threat exists. All identified sites will be assessed under the EPA's Hazardous Waste Site Enforcement and Response System to determine if a hazardous waste problem actually exists.

NM/223075515

## A. SITE NAME

UNC San Mateo Mine

## B. STREET (or other identifier)

T. 13N. R. 8E. sec. 30 NE 1/4  
5 1/2 mi. W. of San Mateo on SR53, 2 1/2 mi. S. on dirt rd.

## C. CITY

San Mateo (approx. 4 miles east of site)

## D. STATE

NM

## E. ZIP CODE

87050

## F. COUNTY NAME

Cibola

## G. OWNER/OPERATOR (if known)

Rare Metals Corp. 1959-1962  
El Paso Natural Gas 1962-1964  
U.S. Forest Service / United Nuclear Corp. 1964-1971

## 2. TELEPHONE NUMBER

(505) 287-8833 (USFS)  
(505) 883-6901 (UNC)

## H. TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (if known)

☒ 1. FEDERAL☐ 2. STATE☐ 3. COUNTY☐ 4. MUNICIPAL☐ 5. PRIVATE☐ 6. UNKNOWN

I. SITE DESCRIPTION UNC San Mateo mine is an inactive underground uranium mine located approximately 12 miles NE of Grants in the Ambrosia Lake District of the Grants Mineral Belt. The site is approximately four miles west of the town of San Mateo, and is located on an arroyo approximately 3,000 feet south of the ephemeral San Mateo Creek. Associated with the mine are a spoils pile and a dry heap-leach pond (combined surface area approximately 725,000 ft<sup>2</sup>). Neither has cover vegetation, and no reclamation had been performed as of August 1986. The EPA study of 1983 identified one open vent, that no head frame was present, and the shaft area was collapsed.

J. HOW IDENTIFIED (i.e., citizen's complaints, OSHA citations, etc.) Site Investigated in the following studies: EPA 520/1-83-007, 1983 and EID/GWH-86/2, 1986.

K. DATE IDENTIFIED  
(mo., day, & yr.)  
1983

## L. SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL OR KNOWN PROBLEM

The spoils pile and dry heap-leach pond are actively eroding with redeposition occurring in the adjacent arroyo and probably in San Mateo Creek (EPA, 1983; EID, 1986). The wastes may also be eroded and redeposited by wind. At least three ranches are present downstream from the site, and livestock present in the area have easy access to the site and to runoff water.

SUPERFUND  
FILE

MAR 26 1992

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## M. PREPARER INFORMATION

## 1. NAME

Randy Merker - NM EID

## 2. TELEPHONE NUMBER

(505) 827-2862

## 3. DATE (mo., day, &amp; yr.)

June 30, 1988

